

Herald Printers Fail To Tell Why They Quit

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Veterans Service Center Forced to Close by May 1 Due to Lack of Funds



BIG ACHIEVEMENT . . . Doris McQuillen, one of the many assets Torrance has to boast about, poses to illustrate a press-agent's impression of the city's achievements during the past 34 years which will be reviewed Monday night at the Chamber of Commerce Annual Round-up Dinner.

Lack of Funds Force Closing of Veteran Center

The Torrance Area Veterans Service Center, which aids more than 1000 veterans from this area each month, will be closed by May 1, it was revealed yesterday by James G. Caldwell, director of the local center.

Reason for closing the center was revealed in a letter from Arthur H. Tryon, executive director of the Veterans Service Center in Los Angeles, to Pat MacDonnell, president of the local center. The letter stated:

"Failure of the Community Chest campaign to reach its goal resulting in a shortage of \$1,500,000 together with the advisability of consolidating services to veterans in the area, where the prime factors prompting the decision of the executive committee."

The decision came at a meeting of the executive committee of the VSC of Los Angeles, held February 18 at which time it was unanimously voted that the Torrance VSC would discontinue operations before May 1, 1949.

Caldwell stated that he will return to a retired status upon the closing of the center. He had 30 years of government service before he came out of retirement in 1945 to become

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STANDING ROOM ONLY FOR C. OF C. BANQUET

Approximately 400 of Torrance's civic minded "400" will attend the Chamber of Commerce's Annual Round-up Dinner Monday night in the Civic Auditorium, according to Charles V. Jones, chamber president.

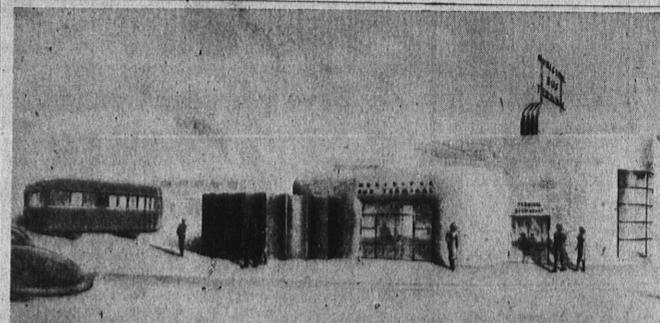
He reported the affair was a "sell-out" as each seat at the 41 tables has been spoken for.

This year's theme, "34 Achieving Years," will be observed by the various speakers on the program who will review Tor-

rance's past achievements and outline plans for the future.

Chief speaker of the evening will be Dr. Elmer S. Nelson, internationally known economist and former University of California instructor. He will point out the part Torrance must take to maintain a position in the economic picture of the future.

Entertainment for the affair will include a musical salute from the Torrance Area Youth Band and solos by individual members of the organization. James Van Dyck will direct.



PROPOSED BUS TERMINAL . . . Artist's sketch illustrates building which James Baudin, local restaurant owner, offered the city to build and operate as a bus depot as the Torrance Terminal.

Printers Refuse \$85 to \$94 for Four Days Work

Franklin A. Thomas, president of the printers' union, failed to divulge yesterday why four members of his union quit their \$85-\$94 four-day-a-week jobs at the Torrance Herald and established a "wild-cat" picket line last week.

Thomas, who heads the San Pedro Typographical Union No. 862, received a letter from Grover C. Whyte, publisher of the Herald, inviting him to tell the public "his side of the story" on why five linotype operators and one apprentice quit their jobs on February 11. A copy of this letter also was posted on the door of the Herald and was read by some of the printers who had left the employ of the Herald and were walking the picket line.

"We believe," said Publisher Whyte, "that the public, the readers of this newspaper are entitled to know what forces are at work that are attempting to influence, control, and pressurize the press of this community."

Whyte continued: "Last week pickets appeared

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Bill Gray Fund Nears \$500 as Campaign Ends

Efforts on the part of a number of local citizens who were attempting to raise a fund to buy an artificial arm for Billy Gray were rewarded this week when it was disclosed that the one-week campaign was nearing the \$500 mark.

It was anticipated that the campaign would end tomorrow and that a complete report of the fund-raising activity would be made at that time.

Billy Gray, 15-year-old Torrance High School athlete lost his arm in a train accident February 16.

Rallying to support the drive were a number of service clubs who had pledged varying sums and hundreds of citizens whose offerings deposited in jars throughout the city brought the total to a hastily calculated figure of \$435.70.

Atwood Girl Hurt In Bicycle-Auto Accident Tuesday

Janet Atwood, an 11-year-old bicycle rider sustained minor injuries Tuesday afternoon when she was struck by an auto as she was attempting to cross Torrance boulevard at Fortola avenue, according to Torrance Police Department.

Janet is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Atwood, 1966 Plaza del Amo, well known Legionaire and baseball official. Driver of the car was said to be Ray F. Mance of Hermosa Beach.

Who's Fair Now?

THEIR STORY OUR STORY

Four regular employees and one part-time employee, all members of the San Pedro Typographical Union No. 862, and one apprentice printer under G-I training, walked off their jobs on February 11, after serving notice on the Torrance Herald that they were "not available for work."

Having thus quit their jobs, the Herald was forced to hire other printers to fill the vacancies they had created.

Three days later, the former employees, (apparently changing their minds) reported for work. They were admitted to the Herald's composing room and shown that a new crew was at work. They were told by the mechanical superintendent, "Sorry boys, we have no vacancies on the staff."

The walk-out of the five printers followed six weeks of discussion over working hours, and the printers' refusal of the following offer:

1. Four (4) regular shifts of 7½ hours each, Monday thru Thursday, and five hours overtime at the overtime rate of time and one-half, distributed over the four regular shifts and immediately following the 7½ hours of straight time.

2. Printers were to have Friday, Saturday, and Sunday off, each week.

3. Pay offered for the four days work, as above, was identical with that received by union printers on daily newspapers working five full shifts, or \$84.87 for days and \$89.14 for nights.

4. One printer on each day and night shift was to receive \$1.00 additional per shift as machinist-operator."

None of the newspapers in the harbor area, including the Torrance Herald, have had union contracts since Dec. 31, 1947.

The reason originally advanced by the former workers for their refusal to accept the same pay for the shorter work week, was that "it was against union rules." However, during the discussion prior to the walk-out—and at the suggestion of one of the union members—a method of procedure entirely in accordance with union rules was agreed upon.

In other words, the publisher of the Herald agreed to make the adjustment according to union rules, but still the printers walked out, and refused to work. One union member, the foreman, and another union printer, reported for work after the walkout.

The only alternative The Herald had was to suspend publication or hire other printers to replace those who quit. We did the latter. And this is the reason there is no justification for calling the dispute a "lock out."

This is no quarrel with organized labor. The Herald has employed union labor for over 25 years, and is a firm supporter of the rights of working men and women.

This newspaper shall continue to uphold the rights of working people and all groups with a just cause.

The Herald believes that \$85 to \$94 for four days work is good pay, and we have experienced no difficulty in replacing the men who quit with competent printers to whom we are paying the same wage scales and working the same hours as those refused by the men who quit.

(This space was reserved for a statement from the president of the printers union in answer to the question, "Why did 4 of your printers quit their \$85 to \$94, four day a week jobs with the Torrance Herald?") It was not received.



NEW BLOSSOMS . . . Spring rains, warm sun, a pretty girl, a photographer and thousands of Acacia blossoms all turned out to make this picture possible. Winona Hamni, 1828 Middlebrook Road, paused to view the many trees now covered with brilliant yellow blossoms that line both sides of Acacia avenue.

—Herald Photo.

BOARD OKEHS SEASIDE RANCHO SCHOOL PLANS

Seaside Rancho School plans were approved by the Board of Education at a special meeting late yesterday afternoon and immediately sent to state officials for their approval, according to J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools.

The special meeting was called to expedite the construction of the Seaside School in an effort on the part of the board to make good on their promise of a school for the Seaside Rancho residents by September.

Several other developments in the school situation took place

the preceding night at the regular meeting of the Board. Namely:

1. Approval was granted the administration to proceed with surveying of the North Torrance site as soon as the title of the land passes to the board—in the next few days.

2. Ordered the school officials to call for plans for a four-unit and sanitary facility addition to Perry Elementary School.

3. Advised the board that an offer of \$1850 an acre for ten acres for the Walteria School

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RECOVERING . . . Dorothy Ruth O'Brien, 20, after three months convalescing in the hospital as a result of an injury suffered in a horseback accident last November 28, is expected to return home in the next two weeks.

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Walteria Fete Tonight

Sons and daughters will be feted tonight by members of the Walteria Business Men's club in a dinner meeting at the Fish Shanty.

About 60 club members and their children are expected to attend the affair, which will fea-

ture cartoons and favors for the children, according to President J. A. Beasley.

Arrangements for the motion pictures, Mickey Mouse cartoons, are being made by Sgt. A. I. Conger.

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